

## Message Text

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70

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-07 NEA-11 CIAE-00 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SAM-01 TRSE-00 AID-20 MC-02 IO-14 EB-11 DRC-01

/163 W

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R 131518Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1596

INFO USMISSION USUN

HQUSAF WASHDC

DIA WASHDC

HQUSAFE RAMSTEIN

HQSEUCOM STUTTGART

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENNA 1283

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR AU

SUBJECT: AUSTRIAN REQUEST FOR U.S. AIRLIFT SUPPORT

1. AUSTRIAN DEFENSE MINISTRY OFFICIALS QUERIED EMBASSY  
12 FEBRUARY ON INFORMAL BASIS THROUGH DEFENSE ATTACHE OFFICE  
AS TO WHETHER USG WOULD BE WILLING TO PROVIDE GOA WITH AIRLIFT  
SUPPORT, ON COST REIMBURSABLE BASIS, TO MOVE EQUIPMENT FROM  
AUSTRIA TO AUSTRIAN UN FORCES IN SUEZ CANAL AREA. OFFICIALS  
WERE INFORMED THAT GOA REQUEST WOULD BE FORWARDED TO WASHINGTON  
FOR USG CONSIDERATION.

2. DEFENSE MINISTRY ENVISAGES IT'S REQUEST AS ONE FLIGHT IN  
THE FIRST WEEK OF MARCH, TWO FLIGHTS IN THE BALANCE OF MARCH  
AND APPROX ONE FLIGHT PER MONTH FOR SIX MONTHS THEREAFTER UNTIL  
BUFFER ZONE OPERATIONS HAVE BEEN STABILIZED. AIRCRAFT WOULD BE  
C-141 OR C-130.

3. GOA PLANS TO ATTEMPT INITIALLY TO ARRANGE U.S. AIRLIFT  
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UNDER AEGIS AND FUNDING OF UN. IF THIS IS NOT POSSIBLE, WOULD

THEN PROPOSE BILATERAL AGREEMENT WITH USG ON COST REIMBURSEMENT BASIS.

4. DEFENSE MINISTRY'S INITIAL CARGO LIST TO CONSIST OF 15 TRUCKS, 2-3 1,500 LITER WATER TANK TRUCKS, 400 FIELD BEDS, 35 TWO KILOWATT WATER IMMERSION HEATERS AND TENTS.

5. GOA'S DESIRE TO MOVE EQUIPMENT BY AIR BASED ON FACT THAT AUSTRIA FORCES ARE IN URGENT NEED OF EQUIPMENT SINCE THEY WILL STILL BE USED AS

A MOBILE FORCE ALONG THE EAST SIDE OF THE CANAL AND BE LIVING UNDER PRIMITIVE CONDITIONS. AUSTRIAN OFFICIALS HAVE CITED MEDICAL AND MORALE

FACTORS AS ADDITIONAL REASONS FOR NEED OF RELIABLE FAST MOVEMENT OF DESIRED EQUIPMENT.

6. GOA REPORTEDLY HAS INVESTIGATED ALTERNATIVE MEANS OF TRANSPORT AND HAS FOUND THEM WANTING. SURFACE SHIPMENT OUT OF JUGOSLAVIA VERY CUMBERSOME AND TIME CONSUMING. SWEDES HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO RELIABLY SUPPLY AIRCRAFT ON TWO WEEK NOTICE AS REPORTEDLY REQUIRED BY AUSTRIANS AND, IN ADDITION, SWEDISH HERCULES AIRCRAFT ARE TOO SMALL FOR SOME OF THE OUTSIZED CARGO. GOA DOES NOT WISH TO APPROACH SOVIET UNION, AFTER POOR AND BEGRUDGING PERFORMANCE OF USSR IN MOVING INITIAL CONTINGENT OF AUSTRIAN UN TROOPS FROM VIENNA TO MIDDLE-EAST.

7. AS CONTRAST THERETO, GOA HAS CITED HIGH EFFICIENCY AND RELIABILITY OF U.S. AIRLIFT OF AUSTRIAN FORCES IN DECEMBER AS REASON FOR APPROACHING USG AGAIN WITH THIS REQUEST.

8. COUNTRY TEAM STRONGLY RECOMMENDS, FOR OBVIOUS REASONS, USG PROVIDE GOA, WITH AIRLIFT SUPPORT ON COST REIMBURSEMENT BASIS FOR PERIOD DESIRED. FOREGOING RECOMMENDATION BASE, OF COURSE, ON ASSUMPTION THAT UN OR GOA CAN OBTAIN APPROPRIATE FLIGHT CLEARANCES WHENEVER REQUIRED.

9. AN ANSWER TO THIS COMMUNICATION IS REQUESTED BY 20 FEBRUARY 1974. HUMES

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AIR TRANSPORTATION, MILITARY AIRCRAFT, INTERNATIONAL PEACEKEEPING FORCES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 13 FEB 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974VIENNA01283  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** golinofr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 21 MAR 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <21 MAR 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <01 MAY 2002 by golinofr>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** AUSTRIAN REQUEST FOR U.S. AIRLIFT SUPPORT  
**TAGS:** MARR, AU, UN  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005